

# Hoyer Advocates for Ending Deforestation, Combating Climate Crisis in AMAZON21 Bill

**Yesterday, Leader Hoyer [introduced](#) H.R. 5830, the America Mitigating and Achieving Zero-emissions Originating from Nature for the 21st Century Act, or AMAZON21, which would authorize a \$9 billion trust fund to finance projects in developing nations like forest conservation and reforestation efforts that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help combat the climate crisis; the bill also includes helping developing countries participate in carbon markets. Leader Hoyer's [bill](#) falls in line with the commitment made by President Biden and more than 100 world leaders at COP 26 to end deforestation by 2030, a crucial goal in fighting the climate crisis. Here's a look at some of the press coverage of this vital legislation:**

**[CNN: Rep. Hoyer introduces \\$9 billion bill to meet Biden's COP26 deforestation pledge](#)**

“House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer's legislation would establish a \$9 billion trust fund at the US State Department to finance bilateral forest conservation projects with developing countries around the world, the same amount Biden said the US should contribute.”

“‘We need them to keep it in the ground,’ Hoyer told CNN – speaking about preventing countries from cutting down trees. ‘The first step [is] stop losing the forest.’”

“Hoyer's bill deals with the immediate need to stop deforestation, but it also encourages countries to reforest their lands as well. In addition to planting trees, countries could also be encouraged to plan other land-based carbon sinks including grasslands, peat, and mangroves.”

**[E&E News: Hoyer goes after deforestation crisis](#)**

“House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer said he first read about the razing of the Amazon rainforests nearly 20 years ago; he is finally introducing legislation to address it.”

“The ‘America Mitigating and Achieving Zero-emissions Originating from Nature for the 21st Century Act,’ or ‘AMAZON21,’ would authorize \$9 billion to assist the international community in forest conservation efforts.”

“The bill Hoyer unveiled today would offer incentives for countries to keep their forests intact rather than cut down trees to accommodate anything from new building developments to energy extraction activities. The \$9 billion trust fund would go toward helping these countries turn their forests into “assets” on which they could receive money while also helping the planet.”

“It's an idea that's been sort of germinating a long time with me, and a commonsense awareness that if a country's asset is a forest, and it wants to make it a farm or wants to make it a mine or do something else with it — but we need them to keep it there — we are asking them to do stuff we didn't do,’ Hoyer explained. ‘And if we don't monetize that, the probability of being able to enforce it are very small.’”

“Hoyer's proposal also takes seriously the enforcement component, with the congressman noting that ‘AMAZON21’ would call for the deployment of ‘drones and satellites’ among the mechanisms to ensure countries receiving money to retain their forests are, in fact, retaining them.”

### **Axios: Top Democrat moves on Biden's COP26 deforestation pledge**

“After President Biden signed onto a global pledge to halt and reverse deforestation by 2030, **Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.), number two in House leadership, unveiled legislation that would authorize funding to go toward that goal.**”

“Hoyer said the bill would get around the limitations imposed by the congressional appropriations process to help **create a stable, long-term funding stream to support forest conservation.** The legislation envisions using satellite monitoring to help ensure countries are complying with the agreements they sign.”

“**We have to make sure that countries have a financial incentive not to take out of the ground, something that we need in the ground growing, and making our environment more conducive to long-term survival,**’ Hoyer said.”

### **POLITICO Huddle: Big Move for Majority Leader**

“House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer introduced a bill Wednesday that aligns with the global pledge that President Joe Biden entered the US into this week to end and reverse deforestation. As majority leader, Hoyer rarely sponsors or introduces his own legislation, instead taking the lead on shepherding other members’ bills over the finish line...”

“**What's in it: Hoyer's legislation would establish a \$9 billion trust fund at the US State Department to finance forest conservation projects in partnership with developing countries around the world, the same amount Biden said the US should contribute.**”

“Addressing the critical challenge of deforestation is an issue I have cared deeply about for many years,’ Hoyer said in a statement. **‘This is an issue that demands urgent action and long-term commitment as part of the broader global effort to confront the climate crisis.’**”

### **The Hill: Hoyer introduces \$9B bill bolstering Biden's deforestation vow at COP26**

“**Hoyer is now turning Biden’s vow into action,** introducing legislation to create the trust fund.”

“At COP26 yesterday, we saw world leaders from more than 100 nations commit to ending deforestation by 2030, and President Biden committed to investing \$9 billion in the global fight against deforestation. **The Congress of the United States is ready to back up President Biden’s commitments with concrete action,**’ [Hoyer] added.”

### **POLITICO Morning Energy: Hoyer for the Trees**

“**House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer is putting Congressional heft behind the U.S. Plan to Conserve Global Forests unveiled at COP26 on Tuesday.** Hoyer introduced a bill Wednesday authorizing \$9 billion for the State Department to finance forest conservation and nature-based carbon sequestration initiatives in developing countries by 2030.”

“The America Mitigating and Achieving Zero-emissions Originating from Nature for the 21st Century (AMAZON21) Act will also help developing economies partake in carbon markets through a training program at USAID.”

### **The Hill Overnight Energy & Environment: Hoyer bill to bolster Biden's deforestation vow**

“House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) on Wednesday will introduce **a bill that aims to bolster President Biden’s commitment at COP26 to end and reverse deforestation by allocating billions of dollars to the effort.** The bill, first reported by CNN, calls for creating a \$9 billion trust fund at the State Department that would be used to roll out bilateral forest conservation efforts in tandem with developing nations across the globe, which is the same financial commitment Biden made at the COP26 conference on Tuesday.”

*Office of the House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer, 11/4/21*